

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the title with the following amended title:

METHOD OF ~~TRIMMING~~ COUPLING A STENT TO A BALLOON ~~OF A BALLOON CATHETER~~

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] The present invention concerns a method of ~~trimming~~ coupling a stent to a balloon ~~of a balloon catheter~~. The present invention also concerns a balloon catheter constructed in accordance with this method.

Please replace paragraph [0004] with the following amended paragraph:

[0004] In view of the above, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art from this disclosure that there exists a need for an improved method of ~~trimming~~ coupling a stent to a balloon ~~of a balloon catheter~~. This invention addresses this need in the art as well as other needs, which will become apparent to those skilled in the art from this disclosure.

Please replace paragraph [0006] with the following amended paragraph:

[0006] Therefore, it is an object of the present invention to provide a method of ~~trimming~~ coupling a stent to a balloon ~~of a balloon catheter~~ that makes it possible to produce a balloon that provides for improved stent fastening characteristics.

Please replace paragraph [0015] with the following amended paragraph:

[0015] The foregoing objects can basically be achieved ~~by achieved~~ by providing a method of ~~trimming~~ coupling a stent to a balloon ~~of a balloon catheter~~ that includes creating protrusions

on the balloon by wrapping a member around the balloon, leaving the member wrapped around the balloon and removing the member from the balloon. The member is wrapped around the balloon such that spaced-apart loops of the member wrapped around the balloon compress the balloon leaving uncompressed portions of the balloon between the spaced apart loops of the member wrapped around the balloon to form the protrusions on the balloon. The member wrapped around the balloon is left for a predetermined period of time. The member is removed from the balloon after the predetermined period of time.